(b) if so, whether this programme which would cover both Government and private institutions would have three components;

(c) if so, what are the main points of three components;

(d) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide assistance of Rs. 1,250 crores; and

(e) if so, by what time they are likely to provide this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (e) The Centre has launched "Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India" to improve quality of technical education with the assistance of World Bank. The total cost of the Programme for 10th Plan period is Rs. 1,550 crore consisting of Central component of Rs. 350 crore and State component of Rs. 1,200 crore.

The Programme has two components namely (1) Institutional Development and (2) System Management Capacity Improvement. The main points of Institutional Development component are: (i) Promotion of Academic Excellence (ii) Networking of Institutions for Quality Enhancement and Resource Sharing (iii) Enhancing Quality and Reach of Services to Community and Economy and (iv) System Management Capacity Improvement at institutional level. The System Management Capacity Improvement at National and State level are the main points of the second Programme component.

The World Bank assistance would be approximately Rs. 1,250 crore. The process to select institutions has been initiated under this programme. The funding will be on competitive basis as per the proposals of institutions selected and will be on reimbursement basis.

Criteria for granting aid to colleges

391. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 30th January, 2003 under the caption, "UGC to help colleges with potential";

(b) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission proposes to identify colleges across the country with potential for excellence in teaching; for awarding grant upto Rs. 1 crore;

(c) if so, what are the criteria for identifying such colleges; and

(d) whether colleges, including professional colleges, in the private sector would be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) A news item captioned "UGC to help colleges with potential" regarding the UGC Scheme for identifying colleges with Potential for Excellence in teaching was published in the Hindustan Times dated 30.1.2003. Improvement of quality and excellence in the institutions of higher education is one of the thrust directions that the UGC has set during the Tenth plan period Under this programme, the UGC proposes to select and support 100 Colleges throughout the country, which have "Potential for Excellence" so as to allow them to improve their academic infrastructure leading to achievement of excellence in teaching activities and initiate research culture.

These Colleges would be given "Joint Degree Conferring Status" with their names on the degree certificate along with the name of the University. This would enhance their credibility.

The UGC is in the process of constituting an Expert Committee, which would suggest criteria and modalities for the selection of Colleges with "Potential for Excellence". The Committee would also suggest the level of financial inputs to be provided to these Colleges under the scheme.

Professional Colleges in the Private Sector would not be covered under the scheme.

Syllabi in Madarsa

392. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: